(iv) The entire demand risk and other risks associated with the project are borne by the Joint Venture.

(v) There is no obligation/provision for a buy-out or termination payments to be made by the public sector entity or Government under any circumstances whatsoever.

(vi) The management of the JV is separate from the Public Sector Undertaking's functioning and is managed independently by the JV Board.

(vii) There is no protection for change in law, *i.e.,* the Public Sector Entity or Government does not cover political risks.

(viii) There is no contingent liability for Government or Public Sector Entity under any event of default or under any circumstances whatsoever.

(ix) All liabilities rest with the JV Company.

(x) The Public Sector entity is not liable for any debt repayments or any other payments under any circumstances whatsoever.

Shortage of electricity

†1435. DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI:
SHRI RAM JETHMALANI:

Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that as per the recently made assessment, the shortage of electricity normally is 7.5 per cent and 12 per cent at the peak hour;

(b) if not, the details thereof;

(c) whether it is a fact that the said shortage can be overcome by the electricity distribution and transmission system, improvement in power generation projects and extension of power transmission system at national level;

(d) if so, Government's reaction thereto; and

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†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(e) whether it is a fact that necessary funds for improvement in the said sector will be less than the amount to be spent to set up the system for import of power from abroad?

THE MINISTER OF POWER (SHRI SUSHIL KUMAR SHINDE): (a) and (b) The actual energy and peaking shortage in the country during the period April, 2006 to February, 2007 were 9.5% and 14.2% respectively.

(c) The power shortage can be reduced by strengthening of electricity "transmission and distribution system, improvement in power generation, reduction in transmission and distribution losses, etc.

(d) Various measures needed in this regard are in progress.

(e) Generally yes, except in some specific cases where power is to be consumed in areas bordering the neighbouring countries from where the power is to be imported.

Setting up of power plants by BHEL

1436. SHRI KAMAL AKHTAR:
SHRI B.J. PANDA: MS.
PRAMILA BOHIDAR:

Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether BHEL proposes to set up a 400 MW power plant on coal-to-gas conversion technology as eco-friendly and low carbon mission generation project in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether such a project is also proposed to be set up in the backward regions of the country, *i.e.* Orissa, Jharkhand, Chhattisgarh etc.; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF POWER (SHRI SUSHIL KUMAR SHINDE): (a) to (d) Bharat Heavy Electricals Ltd. (BHEL) at present have no plans to set